Virginian-Pilot.



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HOLY DOOR OF ST. PETER'S CLOSED

Ceremony Conducted in Person By the Holy Father.

A MAGNIFICENT SPECTACLE.

-The Material Employed in Closing

(By Telegraph to Virginian-Pilot.)
Rome, December 24-The Pope to-day
performed the ceremony of closing the
Holy door of St. Peter's Cathedral with
the gorgeous forms usual to great functions of this kind. It was a magnificent spectacle. There was a great gathering of the Princes of the Church, who participated in the ceremony, which was witnessed by enormous crowds.

THE POPE'S HEALTH. The closing of the Holy door took place with the utmost pomp of Catholic Church, with the utmost pomp of Catholic Church. His Holiness descended to St. Peter's Cathedral at 11 a. m., and the ceremony lasted until 1 p. m. The Pope then returned to his apartments apparently not fatigued. He used the artistic, golden resonant voice and thoroughly gave evidence of being in excellent health and spirits. He used the artistic, golden trowel, subscribed for by the Catholics of the world, in mortaring the three gilded bricks which he placed as a first layer on the threshold of St. Peter's door. The whole pontifical court participated in the ceremonies.

A SUPERB SPECTACLE,

The spectacle outside the vast basilica was superb. The pillars of the central mave were draped with golden embroidred scarlet cloth, and the porch under which the function took place was transformed into a magnificently decorated hall. On the left of the Holy door was erected the nontifical throne, covered with red and gold. On the right hand of the door stood tribunes for royal personages, prines, Knights of Malta, prelates, representatives of theRoman noullity and other distinguished persons. Inside the church every linch of space was occupied by the throng, which sathered early in the morning. A strong detachment of the Cathedral, controlled the incoming crowds, who literally raced to secure the best positions.

The Pope left his apartments at 11-45 a. m., borne in the sacred chair and preceduith lighted candles, Bishops, Archbishops, and Cardinals are escorted by the pontifical noble guards. On his arrival at the portal of St. Peter's he alighted and entered the church through the holy door. As he appeared on the threshold, the solemn and silvery tones of the trumpet received through the editice. The chapter of the Vatican met him and presented to him holy water which he sprinkled upon the congregation. Applicates being forbidden, a religious silence was observed which heightened the grandeur and impressiveness of the moment.

PRECIOUS RELICS.

Borne now on the sedia gestatoria to

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Borne now on the sedia gestatoria to the high altar, he stepped to the g ound and knelt to the most precious relies of Catolic Church, which were displayed on the altar. Then the procession re-formed and proceeded to the chapel of the sacrament, where the pontifi again knelt for some time, while the choir of the Sistine chapel chanted pasims. The Pope was then borne to the holy door, where he alighted from the sedia gestatoria and waited until the entire procession had passed out through the door, he leaving the church last and walking to the throne, where he seated himself.

A number of sacred songs were sung by the Papal choir, after which Leo roas blessed all the material employed in closing the door. Then he descended from the throne, knelt before the dome and laid with the golden trowel a layer of cement, on which he placed three gittbricks bearing commemorative inscriptions. Besides the bricks he placed a casket containing gold, silver and bronze mediats and bearing the head of Leo and inscriptions recording the opening and closing of the holy door.

A SIMILAR CEREMONY.

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A SIMILAR CEREMONY.

ne Pope having re-ascended the one, Cardinal Bishop Seratino Vannu-, great plenipotentiary, and four or Cardinals, performed a similar coreiny of laying cement and three bricks, or which the masons employed by the lean closed the doorway with a cansserven, painted to represent marble, ha cross in the centre.

he candles borne by the clergy were inguished the TeDeum was sung and Pontiff, having given solemn benediction, was immediately carried back to his ruments.

It is estimated that 80,000 persons were spectators of the ceremony.

AMERICAN EXHIBIT.

SEIZED IN PARIS FOR ALLEGED DEBT.

(By Telegraph to Virginian-Pilot.) Paris, Dec. 24.-Thirty cars, forming

part of the United States government exhibit at the recent Paris Exposition, were suddenly laid under embargo towere suddenly laid under embargo today at Havre, the railroad company declining to surrender them pending payment of a claim of 5,710 francs. This
extraordinary action, seriously delaying the departure of the United States
auxiliary cruiser Prairie from Havre
for New York with the government exhibits, was made the subject of a formal protest to the French Government
by United States Ambassador Porter.

DEMURRAGE CHARGES. DEMURRAGE CHARGES.

DEMURRAGE CHARGES.

The company bases its claim on demurrage charges on freight into the cars when the goods were brought to the exposition for installation.

Some time ago the claim was submitted and Major Brackett, secretary of the American commission, investigated it and concluded that it had no foundation, as some of the cars charged against the American Government never contained official exhibits, while the others were cars utilized by private exhibitors and not, therefore, chargeable to the United States.

EFFORTS TO SECURE SETTLE-

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MENT.

Major Brackett thereupon endeavored to secure a settlement, but without avail. The matter dragged along through the summer, the secretary of he American commission repeatedly expressing his willingness to settle any just claim against the United States. The company left the case in an unsatisfactory condition and finally embargoed the cars.

When Major Brackett thereupon endeavour tilled and two wounded at Paris distillery, in Clay county, twelve miles from here, late yesterday. Four members of the Sizmore family on one side and Henry Barrett and W. H. Young and one of the Sizmores were probably fatally wounded.

An old feud was the cause of the trouble.

PAID ON ACCOUNT.

PAID ON ACCOUNT.

"Last summer the company submitted a bill of 32,782 francs for freight charges against the commission." he said today "and pressed for payment. Pending an explanation of certain items, I paid 25,000 francs on account, at the same time asking for details. When these were furnished I discovered that the commission had been charged with 4,193 francs which should have been charged to the Compagnie Generale Trans-Atlantique, while 4,110 francs should have been charged to private exhibitors. The company is therefore obliged to make a rebate."

Toniorrow being a holiday, there will be no loading of the Prairie. The cars will be released by the payment of the 500 francs. Should Wednesday not bring a satisfactory solution, Major Brackett will probably pay the rest of the claim under protest in order not to delay further the sailing of the Prairie. At the same time he will enter an additional claim for damages.

TROUBLE WITH CONTRACTOR.
Some trouble also arose with Philip Lasles, the contractor who built the National pavilion. He wrote the American commission Dec. 16, saying that the last letter from Commissioner-Gen. eral Peck was not satisfactory, and asking when the building would be turned over to him for demolition. Two days later he notified the commission that he intended to take possession and begin destruction immediately. He in turn was informed that the building would be placed under his control Dec. 20, and at a formal meeting he was notified that the commission would remove certain furnishings not supplied by him, a proposition to which his report didn't object.

ARRESTS MADE. TROUBLE WITH CONTRACTOR.

ARRESTS MADE.

Saturday night, while the American custodian of the building, assisted by two workmen, was removing material belonging to the United States, a force of police arrived and arrested all three on the ground that they were taking goods which did not belong to them.

It is said that M. Lasies brought about

the arrests.

Major Brackett secured their release today. M. Lasles served him with a legal notice that he would not accept the pavilion in its present shape, and would demand damages for delay. The Frenchman will now be held to the strict terms of the contract, which included demolition, and a counter claim will be entered of a forfeit of 200 francs daily from March 15, the date when the contract called for completion, and June 23, together with a claim of 2,000 francs for defective construction, as the roof leaked and certain furnishings were ruined.

A SPECIAL CLAIM.

More than this there will be a special claim of 2,000 francs if it can be proved that M. Lasies brought about the areels, making a total of 26,500 francs. Another bone of contention may be the settlement of the restaurant concession in the American pavillon, which has not been paid for.

A KENTUCKY FEUD.

TWO MEN KILLED AND TWO WOUNDED.

(By Telegraph to Virginian-Pilot.)

he wired him instructions to pay to the company the hundred francs in the presence of his legal authorities and at the same time enter a claim against the company for 10,000 francs, as damages for obstruction and delay. CHINESE QUESTION

With Explanatory Statement.

ADMINISTRATION'S ATTITUDE | ACCUSATIONS

(By Telegraph to Virginian-Pilot.) Washington, D. C., Dec., 24-Secretary Hay has received a cablegram from Miner Conger, at Pekin, announcing that had signed the agreement reached by the foreign ministers, but had done with a written explanatory statement, setting forth the exact position of his government. The text of the statement is not forwarded by Mr. Conger, but it is understood to be based upon the last in-struction he received from the department which, while disapproving the inclu-sion in the agreement of some of the more severe language, accepted it as the best arrangement that could be made at this time.

CONSTITUTIONAL REASONS. CONSTITUTIONAL REASONS.

It is believed that the United States also, while sanctioning the permanent lines of communication, legation guards, and prohibition of the importation of arms into China, indicates clearly that constitutional reasons prevent the executive from making any pledge to take part in the execution of these plans.

FIRST PHRASE CLOSED.

JOINT NOTE AS

Produce Effect.

RIDICULED.

The Manchurian Railroad.

(By Telegraph to Virginian-Pilot.) St. Petersburg, Dec. 24.-The Novo Vyremya sharply criticises the joint too long to produce effect. It says the accusations against the Emperor and that the accusation that Prince Tuan is alone responsible for the treachery

A NEW CONCEPTION.

The paper adds: "Rulers sometimes betray their own countries, but treason toward foreign powers is a new conception.

CANNOT MEAN RUSSIA

"The statement in the ultimatum that the troops will not be withdrawn that the troops will not be withdrawn befor ethe conditions are accepted cannot mean Russia, whose troops have already vacated Pe Chi Li, whereas Manchurian affairs do not concern the powers. The note will not bring peace. The powers, possibly, repent nothing for having imitated Russia's example."

VIEWED IN RUSSIA

Minister Conger Signs Joint Note Is Declared to Be Too Long to

of the amended instrument and the advices of the British ambassador at Washington are received. The general results have been briefly summarized in cables to the London authorities, but in a matter of this magnitude they would not act until they were in possession of all the data by mail.

The Nicaraguan minister, Mr. Corea, was asked today as to the report that he had protested in behalf of Nicaragua against the amended form of the treaty. He said he did not care to discuss the matter in its present stage. But he pointed out the unlikilhood that Nicaragua or Costa Rica would protest while the matter was one of domestic policy. Later on, if it assumed the concrete form of a proposition to be submitted to Nicaragua and Costa Rica, it would be for them to say whether it was acceptable or not, but in the meantime it was hardly likely that there would be any protest or other action concerning a subject still in its creative stages in this country and in Great Britain, and not yet before Nicarguau and Costa Rica.

It also can be stated, not on Mr. Corea's authority, but as a fact, that the Nicaraguan government has not up to this time defined its attitude on the amended document. Mr. Corea forwarded it with full advices, but as the Senate acted only a few days ago, there has not yet been time for the papers to go before President Zelaya's

the Senate acted only a few days ago, there has not yet been time for the papers to go before President Zelaya's cabinet. And even then, as Mr. Corea has pointed out, it is doubtful whether Nicaragua will assert her position in advance of receiving overtures as to the canal. It appears to be the accepted view, however, in Central American diplomatic quarters, that the Senate confined its consideration to the interests of the United States and other maritime powers, and failed to take into much account the interests of those countries most vitally conof those countries most vitally con-cerned by having the waterway through their territory.

AN ATROCIOUS MURDER

(By Telegraph to Virginian-Pilot.) Washington, Dec. 24.—News has been received at the War Department of a peculiarly atrocious murder in the peculiarly atrocious murder in the Philippines, the circumstances of which were developed at the trial of six natives before a military commission at Capiz, Panay, P. I. it appeared from the testimony that two of the prisoners were responsible for the death of the wife of one of their neigibors. With seven or eight other men, they went to the house of a native named Victor Pere and forcibly took him and his wife to the Panay river, where they bound their hands behind them and told them that their "last day had come." The woman was struck with a bolo and her dead body thrown into the river. Her husband witnessed her murder, and anticipating similar treatment, sprang into the river, and not-withstanding his arms were pinloned, managed to reach the opposite shore. According to the witnesses, the motive for the crime was a superstitious belief that the murdered woman was a witch possessed of occult powers, whereby she had in some mysterious way brought about the death of the neighbor's child. The two men were sentenced to be hanged, but General MacArthur mitigated the sentence of each case to confinement at hard labor for twenty years out of consideration for the exceeding low order of intelligence and blind superstitution of the accused.

BRYAN CARRIED ALASKA.

GETS A NUGGET WORTH \$500 FROM THE KLONDIKE.

Parkersburg, W. Va., Dec. 24.-Ed Seebohm, who lives a short distance down the Ohio river from here, has written home from Dawson City, Alaska, telling about an election which was held there about the 1st of November. The votes were received at the office of a newspaper, and all Americans in Alaska were allowed to vote. The re-Alaska were allowed to vote. The result was that there were 3,367 votes cast, of which William J. Bryan received 2,423 and William McKinley 934. Having received the largest number of votes cast Mr. Bryan will receive a souvenir in the shape of a nugget from the Klondike. It is of solid gold and is valued at \$500. The base represents a miner's pan. In the center of it is a miniature cabin and in front of the cabin are a windlass and bucket, and about it are small nuggets representing pay dirt. In raised letters around the edge of the pan are the words, "The choice of the American voters in the Klondike." It will be forwarded to Mr. Bryan in a short time, says Mr. Seebohm.

CLEVELAND'S CRITICISM.

MR. BRYAN WILL ANSWER AT A BANQUET.

(By Telegraph to Virginian-Pilot.) Chicago, Ill., Dec. 24.—The Chronicke says: William Jennings Bryan will answer ex-President Cleveland's criticism of the Democratic party at the annual banquet of the W. L. Bryan League of Chicago on the anniversary of the battle of New Orleans, January

The affair will take place at the Sherman House. It will be Bryan's first public speech since his second defeat for the Presidency.

Mr. Bryan's subject will be "Democracy."

Mr. Bryan's subject with the cracy."

Besides Bryan, the other speakers who have accepted invitations to this banquet are ex-Governor Wm. J. Stone, of Missouri, and Congressman Carmack, of Tennessee,

Three Vessels Ashore.

(By Telegraph to Virginian-Pilot.) Washington, Dec. 24.—Superintendent Kimball, of the Life Saving Service, tonight received the following dispatch from Keeper Hitchings, of the Smith's Island, Va., life saving station:

tion:
"Tug Ocean King, the barge Rondout and barge Astoria ran ashore on
Myrtle Beach, eight miles northeast of
Smith's Island station. Crews, numbering 17, saved in the lifeboat by the
Smith's Island and Cobb's Island life
saving crews."

OUR ARMY IN THE PHILIPPINES

War Department Embarrassed by Failure of Congress to Pass

ARMY REORGANIZATION BILL

Officials Have Concluded That 60,000 Men Must be Kept in Philippines Until Policy of Establishing Municipal Governments Throughout the Archipeligo Has be Sent Home Until Department is Advised of Purpose of Congress.

(By Telegraph to Virginian-Pilot.)
Washingthon, D. C., Dec., 24-As a result of a conference between the Secrefurther action can be taken with regard to the return of the volunteers from the Phillipines until Congress shall make provision for their replacement. The War Department is considerably embarrassed by the failure of Congress to make provision before the considerably embarrassed by the failure of the properties of the relief of the military situation in the Phillippines. Acting upon general representations made by General MacArthur, the department has concluded that it is absolutely necessary on maintain an army of 60,000 men in the Phillippines until the current policy in the Phillippines until the phillip further action can be taken with regard

REDUCTION DISASTROUS.

REDUCTION DISASTROUS.

It is tated at the department that any reduction of the military strength below that figure under existing conditions could undoubtedly prove most disastrous to the interest to the United States.

There are now about 69,000 troops, regulars and volunteers, in the Philippines, and arrangements have been made already for bringing home 9,000 of that number.

WILL AWAIT CONGRESS.

Will await congress.

No further reduction will be made until the War Department is advised fully of the purpose of Congress with regard to army legislation. When the necessary authority has been given it is the purpose of the department to bring home as rapidly as possible all the volunteers and regulars whose terms of enlistment expire on the 30th of June next, but not before it is possible to replace them, man for man, with new recruits enlisted under the terms of the new army bill. It therefore appears that after the 3,000 volunteers have left the Phillippines no more troops will be withdrawn from that country until they can be relieved by fresh troops, recruited in the United States, in acordance with legislation yet to be enacted.

PROMPT ACTION EXPECTED.

It is expected that Congress will act

PROMPT ACTION EXPECTED.

It is expected that Congress will act promptly on the army bill soon after it re-assembles in January, but even in that event, it is said at the War Department it will not be possible to get the fresh troops to the Philippines inside of two months time.

The general home coming mevement of the mass of volunteers there fore will have to be postponed until about the first of February. That will give the quarter-master's department, but five months time to bring home the remainder of the volunteers and the regular troops, whose terms will expire at the same time, aggregating about 40,000 men, before the first of July AMEROUS SURVEYS LIMIUM.

gting about 20,000 men, before the first of July,
TRANSPORT SERVICE LIMITED.
This understanding is believed to be beyond the capacity of the transport service as at present organized, and may necessitate the charter of additional steamships, All arrangements in that line, however, will be held in abeyance until definite information has been received of the intention of Congress with regard to the proposed increase of the regular army.

WANT TO COME HOME.

Recent cable advices from General MacArthur indicate a strong desire on the
part of the volunteers generally to return to the United States and that comparatively few of them are likely to reenlist without the most liberal inducements are offered. It is understood that
a bounty of \$250 be allowed to each soldier
in the Philippines who re-inlist for another term and the plan is said to meet with
favor of the officials of the War Department.

TREATY WITH ENGLAND.

COPY SENT THE BRITISH FOREIGN OFFICE.

(By Telegraph to Virginian-Pilot.)
Washington, D. C., Dec., 24—The State
Department has decided to send the

Department has decided to send the amendments to the Hay-Paumeent through two channels, one copy being transmitted to Lord Pauneefote, the British ambasador, and the other through Ambassador Chorate, at London, who will present it to the Foreign Office. It is the understanding that the State Department will make no representations, whatever, as to the changes made in the treaty; the Senate amendments will be allowed to speak for themselves, and the action of the Department in notifying them to the British government will be purely formal.

As the papers leave New York on tomorrow's steamer, they should reach London about New Year's Day, so that the negotiations certainly will lapse over into the next century at the very earliest. It can be authoritively stated that there has been no exchange whatever, either in the shape of written notes, or oral communications between the State Department and the governments of Nicaragua and Costa Rica, that has developed a threat on the part of those Governments to refuse assent to the construction of a canal, in view of the action of the United States Senate upon the Hay-Pauneefote treaty, all that is officially known of the attitude of the two governments mentioned is that their representatives here, Soners Corea and Calvo, thoroughly approved on the Hay-Pauneefote treaty, all that is officially known of the attitude of the two governments mentioned is that their representatives here, Soners Corea and Calvo, thoroughly approved on the Hay-Pauneefote treaty as the basis for the canal construction. Whether or not the changes made in that convention will affect their attitude is unknown. The impression prevails that not being called upon to come to a decision on this point, until the British government shall have passed upon the Senate amendments, the governments of Nicaragua and Costa Rica will not anticepate that action by any declaration at this stage.

OTHER TELEGRAPH PAGE 11

CLASSIFICATION OF NEWS. BY DEPARTMENTS.

Telegraph News-Pages 1, 11, Local News-Pages 2, 3, 5, 6, Editorial News-Page 4, Virginia News-Page 8, North Carollina News-Page 10, North Carollina News-Page 10, Berklay News-Page 11, Shipping News-Page 19, Markets-Page 12, Real Estate News-Page 12,

China, for it is not doubted that the Chinese envoys will subscribe to the agreement without amendment. Its conclusion has been marked by one of the most curious mistakes in the history of international exchange, for by a cipher error, the majority of the signatures found to their amazement that they had contracted to do exactly what they did not intend, and moreover the error was irretrievable.

UNCLE SAM'S CARISTMAS SMILE.

The state of the s

GERMAN SUBJECTS.

FILE CLAIMS FOR DAMAGED IN-TERESTS IN CUBA.

Washington, Dec. 24.-The German embassy has laid before the State Department the claims of a number of German subjects for damage to their interests in Cuba, as a result of the Spanish-American war, and the insurrection which led up to the war itself. This raised a most important issue, and the department has concluded that the United States government cannot accept responsibility for the claims. They are regarded as practically the same in principle as the claim of Porto Rico against Cuba for \$2,000,000 on account of a war loan. Although in that case of Governor Allen of Porto Rico represented the United States government was obliged to deny its liability. The answer to the German presentation will be based upon the reply to Governor Allen recently made. It is known that other governments besides Germany have claims aggregating a very large sum, all based on the Cuban insurrection and succeeding events. They will not be abandoned on account of the attitude of the United States government, but probably will be held in abeyance until such time as the island shall have become independent, when they will be presented directly to interests in Cuba, as a result of the

RETURNING TROOPS.

The Minister of the Interior has started from St. Petersburg and the Minister of War, has started from Yalta to meet the returning groops at Theodosla. M. DeWitte, the Minister of Finance, is expected here January 16, according to the Pessiye.

PRINCIPAL MANCHURIAN RAIL-ROAD.

A special dispacth to the Novoe Vy-A special dispact to the Nove Vyrema from Vladivostock says the exploitation of the principal Manchurian
railroad line and the construction of
a branch line to Port Arthur will be
turned over to the government. Russia has always carefully insisted that
the Manchurian rairoad enterprise was
purely the affair of a Russian private
corporation. The news, if true, is of
great importance politically. The same
correspondent wires that the demobilization is ending everywhere in Manzation is ending everywhere in Manchuria.

A PROTECTIVE GUARD. Baron Kaulbars is distributing the railroad protective guard along the route. The Chinese population along the railroad is suffering from famine. The Russians up to the present have had plenty of supplies.

ENGLAND IS SILENT.

HAS NOT INDICATED ITS PUR-POSE ON TREATY, (By Telegraph to Virginian-Pilot.)

Washington, D. C., Dec. 24.-The Washington, D. C., Dec. 24.—The British Government has not up to this time given the slightest indication as to its purpose on the amended Hay-Padnecfote treaty, and it is understood that the subject will not be taken up by the British Cabinet until the draft